

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the following listing of the claims. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application.

1. (Currently amended) A device for monitoring sterilization with ethylene oxide comprising: at least one layer of polymer, having incorporated therein
 - a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change
 - b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having an a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide, at a pH between 5 and 7 undergoes a reaction wherein the product of said reaction causes said indicator to undergo said color change.
2. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the said indicator comprises at least one member of the group consisting of pigments, dyes, precursors of said dyes, and mixtures of any of the foregoing group members.
3. (Original) The device of claim 2 wherein the said indicator is a pH-sensitive dye.

4. (Original) The device of claim 3 wherein the said indicator is bromothymol blue, bromocresol blue, methyl red, ethyl red, naphtholthelein of mixtures thereof.
5. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein the said indicator undergoes a yellow-to-blue, red-to-yellow or red-to-blue color change.
6. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is soluble in an organic solvent.
7. (Original) The device of claim 1 wherein said polymer is soluble in water or is water dispersible.
8. (Original) The device of claim 7 wherein said polymer is a homopolymer, or a copolymer of a mixture thereof.
9. (Previously amended) The device of Claim 8 wherein said polymer is a polymer of styrene, acrylate, acrylic acid, acrylamide, vinyl acetate, vinyl alcohol, vinyl chloride, or a mixture thereof.

10. (Original) The device of claim 9 wherein the polymer is an acrylate polymer.

11. (Original) The device of claim 6 wherein the polymer is a cellulose nitrate or carboxymethylcellulose.

12 through 39. (Canceled).

40. (Currently amended) A process of using a device for monitoring sterilization of materials, said device comprising at least one layer of polymer, having incorporated therein

- a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change when subjected to a rise in pH,
- b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide at a pH of between 5 and 7, undergoes a reaction, wherein the product of said reaction causes a rise in pH said rise in pH causing said indicator to undergo said color change,

comprising the steps of

- c) affixing the device to said materials or containers containing same

- d) carrying out the process of sterilization including the step of introducing ethylene oxide and
- e) observing the presence of a color change of said device.

41. (Currently amended) A process of using a device for monitoring ethylene oxide, said device comprising at least one layer of polymer, having incorporated therein

- a) an indicator capable of undergoing at least one color change when subjected to a rise in pH,
- b) an activator for said indicator, said activator having a halide anion and a monovalent cation, which, when contacted with ethylene oxide at a pH of between 5 and 7, undergoes a reaction, wherein the product of said reaction causes a rise in pH said rise in pH causing said indicator to undergo said color change,

comprising the steps of

- c) exposing the device to ethylene oxide,
- d) observing the presence of color change in the device.

42. (Previously amended) The process of claim 40 wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, cesium, quaternary nitrogen, quaternary phosphorus and quaternary sulfur.

43. (Canceled).

44. (Canceled).

45. (Previously amended) The process of claim 41 wherein the cation is selected from the group consisting of lithium, sodium, potassium, cesium, quaternary nitrogen, quaternary phosphorus and quaternary sulfur.

46. (New) The device of claim 1, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.

47. (New) The process of claim 40, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.

48. (New) The process of claim 41, wherein the halide anion is selected from the group consisting of iodide, bromide, and chloride anions.